

REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS NATIONAL NUCLEAR COMMISSION PO BOX 2 MAJURO, MARSHALL ISLANDS 96960

October 29, 2021

Ms. Katie Porter
Chair, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Natural Resources
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Porter,

I write to express my appreciation to you for your invitation to testify at the October 21, 2021 hearing of the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, to review the U.S. nuclear legacy in the Marshall Islands and the importance of addressing outstanding issues in the pending Compact discussions.

I was particularly honored to be among your invited witnesses to share my personal connection to the U.S. nuclear testing program through my mother, and to also have the opportunity to speak about the issues that many Marshallese people are still facing today. I was encouraged by the bipartisan support for the bilateral relationship between the U.S. and the Marshall Islands and for the confirmation by yourself and Subcommittee members that the U.S. Government must address nuclear legacy issues as part of our Compact discussions.

Ranking Member Gosar's suggestion to follow up with Administration officials on addressing outstanding nuclear testing issues, including payment of compensation awards, was especially welcomed. I'd be happy to provide more information on some of the key outstanding issues I touched on in my oral testimony, if needed. These include access to quality health care and the importance of educating our future generations on this part of their history.

As I requested in both my oral and written testimonies, I would like to submit the following link to past testimonies and statements by Marshallese leaders to be included in the hearing record:

- THE STATUS OF NUCLEAR CLAIMS, RELOCATION AND RESETTLEMENT EFFORTS IN

THE MARSHALL ISLANDS. These testimonies and statements come from a May 11, 1999 Hearing before the House Committee on Resources in the 106th Congress, and are directly relevant to last week's discussions.

I wish to reiterate my commitment as Chair of the Marshall Islands National Nuclear Commission to do our part to create the fuller measure of cooperation with you and other U.S. Government officials and agencies that is required to address the issues in front of us. With your leadership, I believe that progress is achievable.

Please feel free to call on me should you have any questions or would like additional information about our nuclear justice efforts in the RMI.

Respectfully,

Rhea Moss-Christian

Chair